1 BEFORE THE CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD STATE OF NEVADA 2 Case No. 2020-22 STATE OF NEVADA, CANNABIS 3 COMPLIANCE BOARD, 4 Petitioner, 5 VS. 6 NEVADA MEDICAL GROUP, LLC 7 Respondent. 8 9 COMPLAINT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION 10 The Cannabis Compliance Board of the State of Nevada (the "CCB"), by and through 11 counsel, Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, L. Kristopher Rath, Esq., 12 Senior Deputy Attorney General, and Ashley A. Balducci, Esq., Senior Deputy Attorney 13 General, having a reasonable basis to believe that Respondent NEVADA MEDICAL 14 GROUP, LLC. ("NMG" or "Respondent") has violated provisions of Chapters 678A through 15 678D of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS"), and the Nevada Cannabis Compliance 16 Regulations ("NCCR"), hereby issues its Complaint, stating the CCB's charges and 17 allegations as follows: 18 JURISDICTION 19 During all relevant times mentioned in this Complaint, NMG held, and 20 1. currently holds, the following license and certificate: 21 Last Issued / Address License/Certificate ID 22 Renewed 7/1/2020 Medical Cultivation C144 23 30658964196185382559 24 25 7/1/2020 RC144 Adult-use Cultivation 79806207400948405980 26 During all relevant times mentioned in this Complaint, NMG is and was 2. 27 registered as a domestic limited liability company in the State of Nevada. The Nevada 28

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Secretary of State lists the Manager of NMG as Robert Hasman. Mr. Stephan Hoffman is listed as the Point of Contact for NMG with the CCB.

- The investigation at issue in this matter took place on August 5, 2020, and 3. the violations set forth herein occurred and/or were found to exist on that date. Effective July 1, 2020 and pursuant to NRS 678A.350, the CCB superseded the Marijuana Enforcement Division of the Department of Taxation (the "Department") in enforcing Nevada's laws and regulations for the cannabis industry. The NCCR's became effective as of August 5, 2020. As a result, NMG is subject to NRS Title 56 and the NCCR's for the violations asserted herein. Therefore, NMG is subject to the jurisdiction of the CCB and subject to discipline pursuant to NRS 678A through 678D and the relevant provisions of the NCCR's.
- Pursuant to NRS 678A.500 and 678A.510(1), the CCB's Executive Director 4. has transmitted the details of the suspected violations of NMG to the Attorney General and the Attorney General has conducted an investigation of the suspected violations to determine whether they warrant proceedings for disciplinary action. The Attorney General has recommended to the Executive Director that further proceedings are warranted, as set forth in this CCB Complaint. The Executive Director has transmitted this recommendation and information to the CCB. Pursuant to NRS 678A.510(2)(b), the CCB has voted to proceed with appropriate disciplinary action under NRS 678A.520 through 678A.600, and has authorized service of this CCB Complaint upon Respondent pursuant to NRS 678A.510(1).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- CCB incorporates all prior Paragraphs as though fully set forth herein. 5.
- On August 5, 2020, due to a complaint received from an individual, CCB 6. agents investigated of the NMG medical and adult-use cultivation facility at

The Board agents for this investigation were Jason Banales

and Terrence Whittier.

- 7. Not all of the individual's complaint allegations were substantiated, but certain allegations were substantiated and CCB agents found other violations when they arrived at the NMG facility on August 5, 2020.
- 8. Specifically, CCB agents found that six employees working at the facility on August 5, 2020, did not have valid agent cards. The following six employees were working at the facility with expired agent cards;
 - a. Nicholas Dnistransky;
 - b. Ruben Benitez;
 - c. Bryan Lewis;
 - d. David Zuniga;
 - e. Ricky Romero; and
 - f. Marcus Theus
- 9. In addition, one of the aforementioned employees, Nicholas Dnistransky, made an intentionally false statement to the CCB agents. During the August 5, 2020, investigation, CCB agents advised Mr. Dnistransky that he must leave the facility because his agent card had expired. Mr. Dnistransky then asked to gather his personal items prior to leaving the facility and was granted permission to do that. However, Mr. Dnistransky's request to gather personal belongings was knowingly false. Upon review of security footage from this time period, CCB agents found that, rather than simply gathering personal belongings, Mr. Dnistransky in fact went back into the facility and aided and abetted employee Marcus Theus in an unauthorized exit of the facility in an attempt to avoid CCB agents from uncovering the fact Mr. Theus was also working with an expired agent card.
- 10. During the course of the investigation, CCB agents also found that NMG failed to maintain security measures to prevent unauthorized access to limited access areas, as an employee was observed exiting through a side roll-up door.

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VIOLATIONS OF LAW

- 11. CCB incorporates all prior Paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 12. As to certificate C144 and license RC144, Respondent NMG violated NCCR 6.070(6) and NCCR 4.055(1)(a)(1) by failing to have six employees in immediate possession of their valid cannabis establishment agent registration cards. Specifically, as detailed in Paragraph 8 above, six employees had no valid agent cards in their possession while working at NMG's cultivation facility on August 5, 2020. These omissions constitute six separate and distinct Category IV violations. NCCR 4.055. Pursuant to NCCR 4.055, the first such violation carries a fine of \$5,000. The second such violation carries a fine of \$10,000 and/or a suspension of not more than 7 days. The third such violation carries a fine of \$20,000 and/or a suspension of not more than 10 days. The fourth such violation carries a fine of \$40,000 and/or a suspension of not more than 20 days. The fifth such violation carries a fine of \$80,000 and a suspension of not more than 30 days. The sixth such violation requires revocation of NMG's certificate and license.
- 4.035(1)(a)(3) by making an intentionally false statement to a CCB agent. Specifically, NMG, through its employee and agent Nicholas Dnistransky falsely advised a CCB agent that Mr. Dnistransky wanted to remain in the facility briefly to gather personal belongings after being asked to leave for failing to hold a valid agent card. In fact, Mr. Dnistransky did not remain in the facility for that purpose alone, but rather to aid and abet a fellow employee Marcus Theus in surreptitiously fleeing undetected from the facility to prevent the CCB agents from discovering Marcus Theus was not in possession of a valid agent card. These acts also constitute a violation of NCCR 4.035(1)(a)(11) for obstructing regulatory personnel from performing their official duties. These violations constitute a Category I violation, which carries a fine of \$90,000 and a suspension of up to 30 days. NCCR 4.035(2)(a)(1). In the alternative, should the CCB find these acts and omissions to be unintentional on the part of NMG, then these acts and omissions still constitute a violation of NCCR 4.040(1)(a)(1) for making an unintentional false statement or representation of

fact to a Board agent. In that case, this is a Category II violation, which carries a fine of \$25,000 and a suspension of up to 20 days.

14. As to certificate C144 and license RC144, Respondent NMG violated NCCR 6.085 and NCCR 4.050(1)(a)(5) by failing to follow an approved security plan. Specifically, NWG failed to maintain security measures to prevent unauthorized access to limited access areas, as evidenced by the fact that employee Marc Theus was able to exit through a side roll-up door, as set forth in Paragraph 9, above. NCCR 6.085(1)(a) requires one single secure entrance to a cannabis establishment building and NCCR 6.085(1)(d) requires policies and procedures that restrict access to areas that contain cannabis to only those authorized to be in those areas. This violation is a Category III violation, which carries a fine of \$10,000.

DISCIPLINE AUTHORIZED

Pursuant to the provisions of NRS 678A.600, NCCR 4.020, NCCR 4.030, NCCR 4.035 through 4.060, and NCCR 5.100, the CCB has the discretion to impose the following disciplinary actions:

- Revoke the certificate and license of NMG;
- Suspend the certificate and license of NMG;
- 3. Impose a civil penalty of not more than \$90,000 for each separate violation of NRS Title 56 and the NCCR's on the certificate and license of NMG; and
 - 4. Take such other disciplinary action as the CCB deems appropriate.

The CCB may order one or any combination of the discipline described above.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Based on the foregoing, counsel for the CCB respectfully requests the CCB impose the penalty of revocation against the certificate and license of NMG, C144 and RC144.

In addition, counsel for CCB requests the CCB impose civil penalties against NMG in the amount of \$255,000. Counsel for the CCB further requests the amount expended for CCB's time and effort, pursuant to NCCR 6.025, for its costs to date, of \$527.25. In sum, counsel for the CCB respectfully requests the CCB order revocation of NMG's certificate

and license and order fines, penalties, and costs in the total amount of \$255,527.25. CCB reserves its rights to seek additional costs incurred as this matter proceeds through hearing and rehearing, if applicable.

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that Respondent has a right to request a hearing on the charges set forth herein, pursuant to NRS 678A.510 through 678A.590. Failure to demand a hearing constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing and to judicial review of any decision or order of the Board, but the Board may order a hearing even if the respondent so waives his or her right. NRS 678A.520(2)(e).

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, you, as the Respondent, must answer this Complaint within 20 days after service of this Complaint, unless granted an extension. Pursuant to NRS 678A.520(2), in the answer Respondent:

- (a) Must state in short and plain terms the defenses to each claim asserted.
- (b) Must admit or deny the facts alleged in the complaint.
- (c) Must state which allegations the respondent is without knowledge or information form a belief as to their truth. Such allegations shall be deemed denied.
- (d) Must affirmatively set forth any matter which constitutes an avoidance or affirmative defense.
- (e) May demand a hearing. Failure to demand a hearing constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing and to judicial review of any decision or order of the Board, but the Board may order a hearing even if the respondent so waives his or her right.

Failure to answer or to appear at the hearing constitutes an admission by the respondent of all facts alleged in the Complaint. The Board may take action based on such an admission and on other evidence without further notice to the respondent. NRS 678A.520(3).

The Board shall determine the time and place of the hearing as soon as is reasonably practical after receiving the Respondent's answer. The Board shall deliver or send by

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registered or certified mail a notice of hearing to all parties at least 10 days before the hearing. The hearing must be held within 45 days after receiving the Respondent's answer unless an expedited hearing is determined to be appropriate by the Board, in which event the hearing must be held as soon as practicable. NRS 678A.520(4).

Respondent's answer and Request for Hearing must be either: mailed via registered mail, return receipt; or emailed to:

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director Cannabis Compliance Board 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 4100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 tklimas@ccb.nv.gov

If served by email, Respondent must ensure that it receives an acknowledgement of receipt email from CCB as proof of service.

As the Respondent, you are specifically informed that you have the right to appear and be heard in your defense, either personally or through your counsel of choice at your own expense. At the hearing, the CCB has the burden of proving the allegations in the Complaint. The CCB will call witnesses and present evidence against you. You have the right to respond and to present relevant evidence and argument on all issues involved. You have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, and cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues involved.

You have the right to request that the CCB issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify and/or evidence to be offered on your behalf. In making this request, you may be required to demonstrate the relevance of the witness's testimony and/or evidence.

If the respondent does not wish to dispute the charges and allegations set forth herein, within 30 days of the service of this Complaint, Respondent may pay the civil

| 1 | penalties and costs set forth above in the total amount of \$255,527.25 and surrender its |
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| 2 | license and certificate to: |
| 3 4 | Tyler Klimas, Executive Director Cannabis Compliance Board 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 4100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 |
| 5 | YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to immediately cease the activity described above |
| 6 7 | which is a violation of Nevada law. |
| 8 | DATED: October 20, 2020. |
| 9 | STATE OF NEVADA, |
| 10 | CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD |
| 11 | By: |
| 12 | Tyler Klimas, Executive Director 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 4100 |
| 13 | Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 486-2300 |
| 14 | LITOUR BOMB |
| 15 | AARON D. FORD Attorney General |
| 16 | By: USTCart |
| 17 | L. Kristopher Rath (Bar No. 5749) Senior Deputy Attorney General |
| 18 | Ashley A. Balducci (Bar No. 12687) Senior Deputy Attorney General |
| 19 | Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 |
| 20 | (702) 486-9287 |
| 21 | Attorneys for the Cannabis Compliance Board |
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DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF 1 COMPLAINT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION 2 (Service via Mail) I, Amber Virkler, hereby certify and affirm that: 3 1. I am over the age of 18 years old. 4 2. I am a Board Agent of the Cannabis Compliance Board ("CCB"), as defined in 5 6 NCR 1.068. 3. Pursuant to NRS 678A.520 and NCCR 4.075, I have served the Respondent 7 herein with the Complaint for Disciplinary Action ("Complaint") in the above 8 captioned matter as follows: 9 By placing a true and correct copy of the Complaint to be deposited for mailing in 10 the United States Mail in a sealed envelope via registered or certified mail, prepaid in Las 11 Vegas, Nevada, to Respondent's point of contact with the CCB under NCCR 2.050 at 12 Respondent's address on file with the Board as follow: 13 Name of point of contact served: Stephen "Trip" Hoffman 14 Address on file with CCB: 15 Date of Service: October 20 2020 16 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. 17 Executed on October 20, 2020 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28